are always seen to have. The next thing would be to *blend them together* as in the spectrum. Nature herself has placed in their most harmonious order the colours of the spectrum, and has in the most admirable way blended them together, by running one colour into another, and so producing, by the gentlest gradations, the most complete harmony. No art, however high, can do this thus perfectly, but we may try to approach it. I should propose to accomplish it, in this instance, and blend two adjoining tints together, by running on the under side of each girder, and to about a quarter of their length, some ornamental pattern, in the pure white of the columns. Some care would be necessary in managing this so as to take enough of the white on to the girder without too much covering it. The ornament, too, should not quite touch the head of the columns. This would, in the long perspective, and consequent distance and air, produce, I cannot but think, an almost magical effect; and all the colours being in the distance seen together, the harmony, at least, would be perfect,—this arrangement being the same as in nature. It could, too, be executed by ordinary workmen, and as rapidly as if painted one uniform tint; but its complete success—and it could not be otherwise than successful—would much depend upon the artist's choice of colours, as the colours should not be crude.

The effect of this mode of colouring the great building would be to a spectator, near and immediately around him, that of a room or hall whose general hue is yellow, or green, or purple, with spaces or halls immediately round, orange, or blue, or red, but it would be in the far distance that the wonder of the thing would be found, as the *air* and *distance* would blend all the colours into one perfect and harmonious whole, and the vast numbers of spectators, and the piles of wealth would appear as if covered with a rainbow.

This, upon reflection, will be found to be (if any decorative colour at all is used) the cheapest and most expeditious mode conceivable of accomplishing it: such an opportunity, too, as this, of showing the effect of large masses of bright colour has never occurred before, and may not again: such a system of colour, indeed, is applicable only in a vast space like that in the Park, and could not apply to a small one,—*distance* and *aerial* perspective, being necessary to its full effect. C. Bauce Allen.

THE METROPOLITAN LOCAL COMMISSIONERS FOR THE EXHIBITION.

The various metropolitan committees for deciding on the claims for space in the Hyde-park building, are now definitely formed. We give a list of those which more particularly interest our readers.

MINING, QUARRYING, METALLURGY, AND MINERAL PRODUCTS.

Professor Ansted, chairman; Mr. J. A. Phillips, deputy chairman; Professor E. Forbes, Mr. Matthew Uzielli, Sir J. Duke, bart. M.P.; Professor Tennant, Messrs. Robert Hunt, W. A. Johnson, and — Aston.

MECHANICAL, CIVIL ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, AND BUILDING CONTRIVANCES.

a. Mechanical and civil Engineering.—Mr. C. Fowler, chairman; Mr. E. Clark, deputy chairman; Messrs. J. M. Rendel, I. K. Brunel, Thos. Wicksteed, Joseph Locke, M.P., W. Bridges Adams, H. H. Fulton, W. Harding, W. T. Clark, E. Coffey. *b. Architectural and other Models, and architectural Contrivances.*—Messrs. H. H. Burnell, John Jackson, Capt. L. L. B. Ibbetson, Messrs. N. J. Cottingham, J. J. Scoles, John Humphreys, J. G. Hammack.

PHILOSOPHICAL INSTRUMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS CONTRIVANCES, INCLUDING PROCESSES DEPENDING UPON THEIR USE.

Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N., chairman; Mr. J. S. Bowerbank, deputy chairman. *a. Philosophical Instruments.*—Professor De Morgan; Messrs. J. R. Hind, James Glaisher, Augustus Mordan, Andrew Ross, W. H. Thornthwaite, John Chubb, J. Sylvester, John Currie, John Masterman, R. Hanbury, George Knight, W. E. Newton. *b. Chronometers.*—Messrs. B. L. Vulliamy, E. J. Dent, Charles Frodsham.

WROUGHT AND HAMMERED IRON, CAST-IRON, AND IRON CASTINGS.

Mr. Wm. Bird, chairman; Mr. C. J. Redpath, deputy chairman; Messrs. Joseph Robinson, J. S. S. Hopwood, Lieut.-Col. Colquhoun, Messrs. Wm. Tite, John Sylvester, R. A. Robinson.

WORKING IN PRECIOUS METALS, JEWELLERY, AND ALL ARTICLES OF LUXURY NOT INCLUDED IN THE OTHER CLASSES.

Lord Ashburton, chairman; Mr. John Gray, deputy chairman; Messrs. Sebastian Garrard, J. Hunt, Samuel Oram, W. Sandland; Sir M. Montefiore, Bart., Messrs. H. T. Hope, M. P., S. A. Hart, W. Wyon, John Bell; Sir E. N. Buxton, Bart., M. P., Sir Wm. Clay, Bart., M. P., Mr. Rt. Mushett.

GLASS, CHINA, POTTERY, CERAMIC MANUFACTURES, &c.

Mr. R. Obbard, chairman; Mr. R. Hunt, deputy chairman; Messrs. Apsley Pellatt, Stephen Green, Charles Cowper, G. Houghton, W. A. Wilkinson, J. Richards, J. Wedgwood.

FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY, DECORATIONS, PAPERHANGINGS, AND PAPIER-MACHÉ.

Mr. E. Snell, chairman; Mr. S. M. Hubert, deputy chairman; Messrs. Edward Bond, J. G. Crace, Thomas Dowbiggen, Peter Graham, William Smee, W. A. Wilkinson, John Carter. *Paper Hangings.*—Messrs. Frederick Clarke, W. Haselden, Robert Horne, John Nunn, W. B. Simpson, W. Evans. *Papier Maché.*—Messrs. J. Bettridge, J. Webb.

MANUFACTURES IN MINERAL SUBSTANCES, USED FOR BUILDING OR DECORATIONS, AS IN MARBLE, SLATE, PORPHYRIES, CEMENTS, ARTIFICIAL STONES, &C.

Mr. W. Tite, chairman; Mr. W. Freeman, deputy chairman; Messrs. J. B. Bunning, G. Godwin, C. Larkin Francis; Professor Ansted; Messrs. J. B. White, John Humphreys, A. Aspitel.

FINE ARTS.

Lord Colborne, chairman; Mr. C. R. Cockerell, R.A. deputy chairman; Lord Ashburton, Sir M. Montefiore, Bart.; Messrs. John Bell, Henry Weekes, W. F. Woodington; Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A.; Earl Compton; Messrs. Jas. S. Bowerbank, Richard Cook, R.A., D. Williams Wire, J. Cook Evans, David Roberts, R.A., C. B. Wall, M.P., D. Colnaghi, J. R. S. Hopwood, William Tite, Chas. Barry, R.A., G. Godwin, N. J. Cottingham, Thomas H. Wyatt, Charles Fowler, J. B. Bunning, H. H. Burnell, W. G. Rogers, J. Webb, Wm. Wyon, R.A., Alderman Salomons, J. R. Gowen, M. Digby Wyatt, S. A. Hart, R.A., T. Creswick, R.A., Francis Smedley, John Hancock; Sir W. Clay, Bart., M.P.; Messrs. — Wyatt, A. Ashpitel, John Davies, John Humphreys, J. G. Hammack, Robert Mushett, J. R. D. Tyssen.

MEMS. PROVINCIAL.

A spacious cattle market has been erected in George-street, Chester, near the canal and railway station.——A new residence in the Gothic style for the Roman Catholic bishop at Clifton is in course of erection there. The church adjoining, which is a Grecian structure, is to be new cased in the Gothic Cathedral style.——A chapel to the grammar-school of King Edward VI. at Bromsgrove, has been recently erected, in the first Pointed style, from a design furnished by Mr. H. Day, of Worcester, architect, and carried out by Mr. Robinson, of Redditch, contractor. The fittings are of oak, and the pavements of Minton's tiles.——St. Bartholomew's church, Roby, was opened on Sunday week. It is intended to form, as it stands, the chancel of a future church.——In the storm of Tuesday week, the new Roman Catholic Chapel at Ashton, in course of erection, fell, says a contemporary, with considerable damage to the building.——A new Temperance Hall is about to be erected at Sheffield, at a cost of 1,000*l*., to be raised by shares. It is to accommodate 1,200 persons.——St. Werburgh's Church, Derby, has been re-opened, after being enlarged and otherwise altered. The north aisle has been prolonged to afford additional accommodation for 150 persons. The west gallery has been fitted up with free seats for Sunday-school children and others, and a porch has been added to the west end into which the descent from the galleries is effected by means of two stone staircases.——The Tamworth Peel Testimonial amounts to 1,300*l*. A statue is to be erected in front of the Town Hall.——Shares to the amount of 14,000*l*. have been taken for the proposed music hall at Bradford.——The parishioners of Bradford have resolved, before proceeding to the projected enlargement of their parish church, to employ a competent architect to make a complete survey of the fabric. A committee has been appointed to carry out the resolution.——Two of the wards of Tynemouth have pronounced in favour of the establishment of public baths and washhouses.——The *Glasgow Reformers' Gazette* states, that Mr. York, the contractor for the new Stockwell bridge, has laid the foundation tier of the northern abutment. This consists of a course of heavy blocks of dressed stone, 16 inches thick, and varying in weight from 2 to 2½ tons each. These rest on a substratum of piles, driven 13 feet into the bed of the river, and sheathed and bound. A second course of stone is to be laid transversely over the foundation tier. The top of the piles is 9 feet 6 inches below the surface of low water. The cofferdam permits of the operations being carried on night and day. The expense of preparing the bed of the northern abutment and first pier amounts to more than 4,000*l*. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone will take place early in 1851, so soon as Convener York is prepared to form the spring of the first arch.

ARCHITECTURAL CLUB AND A HOUSE FOR THE INSTITUTE.

My attention of late has been directed to several useful and exceedingly interesting articles published in your valuable journal relating to clubs for literary and scientific purposes. Some of your correspondents propose to provide buildings adequate to the requirements of certain classes, but it has always been to me a matter of no small regret that an influential body such as our Institute of British Architects could not provide themselves with a building suitable to their own respectability, and compatible with the dignity of those who represent the noblest science of civilized nations. I would propose the establishment (in connection with the present Institute) of a club adequate to the wants of the members; and also of those who would, as a matter of preference, become subscribers, where all the present advantages of a club could be combined with a literary society, and a first-class Architectural and General Library.* Certain it is that if the present Institute would establish the "Architects' Club" (a situation such as Buckingham-house, Pall mall, being chosen), and allow all the respectable Architects in the three kingdoms, who were desirous, to join them, on the usual terms of a 30*l*. subscription being paid as the entrance, and 10*l*. annual, I feel no hesitation in saying that at least five hundred members would be willing to enrol themselves and pay down the required sum, which would enable the promulgators to purchase premises adequate to their present wants, and have such a sum in hand as would enable them to commence an investment towards a building-fund, which should some day raise a structure not to be equalled in London. H. B.

THE SERPENTINE AND THE EXHIBITION.

Considering the thousands of persons who annually bathe in the Serpentine, and the multitudes who perambulate its banks, especially during the "season," there can be no doubt that the state of that water is, even under *ordinary* circumstances, a matter of considerable public importance. How still more important a matter will be its condition during the Exhibition of 1851, a period at which it is expected the very *spot* will be thronged by distinguished persons from well nigh every nook and corner of the civilized world. How strange, therefore, that, so far as can be seen, no measures are being taken to remove the filth from the bed of this huge floating abomination, or to convert the latter into a running stream. Government have been told over and over again, by the most eminent physicians of the day, of the danger to the public health during the hot summer months, which arises from the disgusting stagnancy of the Serpentine.

Delay in Starting Trains.—In the Sheriffs' Court at Glasgow, on Thursday in last week, Sheriff Bell decerned for the full claim of a passenger, with expenses, for a delay of three-quarters of an hour caused by failure of the Edinburgh Railway Company to start a train on the fast day at the time appointed. Such a delay the sheriff held to imply mismanagement.

* This suggestion has been made more than once in our pages, and will ultimately, we have no doubt, be carried out. The "Architects' Benevolent Society" and others could be associated with it.—Ed.

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